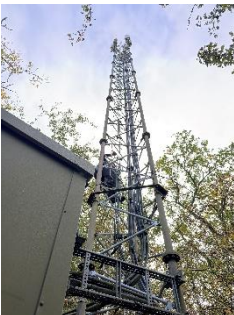


WIZE ALLIANCE ROLLOUT GAINS MOMENTUM AS HIGH CONNECTIVITY DRIVES SMARTER WATER OUTCOMES

July 13th, Paris – France: The rollout of the Wize Alliance network across the UK is progressing strongly, with recent deployment results developing at both pace and performance and, critically, delivering the high connectivity required to unlock the full value of smart metering.

Across the South of England, as part of the Southern Water programme delivered through the Horizon Water Infrastructure (HWI) Alliance alongside M Group Water, deployment is scaling rapidly. In a single week, delivery teams installed 21 sites, underlining the efficiency of rollout in a live operational environment. The largest single site reached 19,000 connected meters, while overall network performance continues to impress, with 97% connectivity and 90% completeness achieved. These figures are not just operational milestones; they are central to delivering meaningful improvements in water efficiency, leakage reduction and customer engagement.

Why connectivity matters



As the industry invests heavily in smart metering, expected to reach £1.5 billion in England and Wales during the 2025-30 AMP cycle, the focus is increasingly shifting from straightforward meter replacement to improved data quality and enhanced usability. As outlined by SUEZ Smart Metering Project Director Hugues Haeffner, connectivity is the defining factor in whether utilities can fully realise the benefits of these investments.

At lower connectivity levels (around 80-85%), smart meters can replicate traditional billing functions, effectively acting as a digital meter reader. However, this delivers limited added value relative to the cost of deployment.

When daily connectivity reaches 95% or higher, then the true potential of smart metering is unlocked. At this level, utilities can generate consistent consumption profiles, detect anomalies such as leaks, and issue timely alerts to customers. Moving further into the 95-98% range allows for the inclusion of night flow data, critical for identifying both customer-side and network leakage.

With customer leakage estimated to account for around 10% of consumption, and network leakage closer to 30%, high-quality data is essential. Achieving these higher connectivity thresholds enables utilities to balance water across district metered areas, identify losses more precisely, and take targeted action to reduce them. This is an increasingly important requirement as Ofwat mandates a 15% reduction in leakage during the current AMP cycle.

Strong alignment with Wize performance

Against this backdrop, the Wize Alliance network's current performance now at 97% connectivity places it firmly within the optimal range for advanced analytics and proactive network management.

This level of connectivity supports a step change in how utilities operate. Rather than reacting to issues after they arise, they can move towards predictive, data-driven decision-making. For customers, this translates into daily consumption insights, early leak alerts and greater control over usage; key factors in driving reductions in per capita consumption (PCC).

The UK has set ambitious targets in this area, including a 4% reduction in PCC by 2030 and 20% by 2038, with a long-term goal of 110 litres per person per day. Delivering these outcomes depends not just on installing smart meters, but on providing the consistent, high-resolution data that enables behaviour change.

Technology built for real-world water environments

The strong connectivity levels achieved by Wize are underpinned by its use of 169 MHz radio technology, which is particularly well suited to the realities of water infrastructure.

A defining advantage is its ability to penetrate deep indoor environments and underground locations where many water meters are installed. Whether in basements, boundary boxes or buried chambers, these challenging environments often defeat higher-frequency networks. By contrast, 169 MHz delivers exceptional propagation, allowing signals to travel through walls, soil and concrete with far greater reliability.

This deep indoor and underground penetration is a critical enabler of consistently high connectivity, ensuring that even the hardest-to-reach meters reliably transmit data. Combined with long-range performance and operation in a less congested spectrum, the technology enables stable communications across both dense urban settings and dispersed rural networks.

The result is a network designed not for ideal conditions, but for the practical challenges utilities face every day, supporting the consistent, high-quality data flows required to achieve regulatory and operational targets.

Strong early validation from UK and European deployments

The positive performance seen in the UK rollout is reinforced by results from recent trials. Jersey Water, working with Wize, achieved connectivity levels of 98.1%, significantly higher than other tested network options, demonstrating Wize's capability in a real-world island deployment. Similarly, Northern Ireland Water reported 98% connectivity in its initial trial phase. Cities in France consistently achieve over 95% connectivity and in Malta the water utility WSC has used a Wize network, combined with SUEZ ON'connect for over twenty years achieving an impressive Non-Revenue Water (NRW) reduction from 45% to 22%.

These connectivity figures align closely with current UK rollout performance, offering further confidence that high connectivity levels can be maintained as the network scales.

Looking ahead

As the Wize Alliance network continues to expand in the UK, the combination of rapid deployment, high connectivity and strong technical characteristics positions it as a compelling option for utilities embarking on or accelerating smart metering programmes.

In an era defined by growing water scarcity, regulatory pressure and the need for greater operational efficiency, such capabilities are becoming essential. By enabling more accurate data, earlier intervention and improved customer engagement, Wize is supporting a broader transformation of water services, one that moves the industry towards smarter, more sustainable resource management.

With deployment accelerating and performance targets being consistently met, the UK rollout appears firmly on track, setting a new benchmark for smart water network delivery.

About Wize Alliance

Wize Alliance is an open and non-profit association that promotes an international standard for the Internet of Things. The organization brings together major international players from the industrial and utility sectors to support the implementation of a Long Range Wize Area Network technology called Wize.

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